Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4425

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP MR

SUBJECT: ADAR CORP. OBTAINS MINERAL STUDY CONTRACT IN MAURITANIA

REF: A. NOUAKCHOTT 1110, 8/19/74; B. STATE 204229; C. NOUAK-

CHOTT 1750; D. STATE 220385

- 1. OFFICIAL IN MAURITANIAN OFFICE OF MINES TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER SEPTEMBER 18 THAT ADAR CORP. FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SIGNED CONTRACT ON JULY 26, 1975, WITH MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INDUSTRIAL DECELOPMENT FOR PURPOSE OF UNDERTAKING STUDY OF ALL MAURITANIA'S MINERAL RESOURCES. (FOLLOWING RECENT GIRM REORGANIZATION, CONTRACT NOW FALLS UNDER JURISDICTION OF MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND MINES.) ADAR WILL BE PAID \$460,000 FOR STUDY, WHICH IS FINANCED BY KUWAIT. AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON BEHALF OF ADAR BY WALID A. SAID, P.O. BOX 155824, BEIRUT, LEBANON. ADAR CURRENTLY HAS NO ONE IN MAURITANIA AND ON SITE WORK HAS NOT YET BEGUN. OFFICIAL CONFIRMED THAT DAR CORP. IS MADE UP OF AMERICANS OF ARAB EXTRACTION.
- 2. MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR TO US, AHMEDOU OULD ABDALLAH, WHO WAS RECENTLY IN NOUAKCHOTT ON CONSULTATION, EXPLAINED TO AMBASSADOR THAT HE HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH ADAR GROUP, WHICH IS HEADED BY GEORGE DOUMANI. ABDALLAH SAID ADAR IS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE US PRIVATE INVOLVEMENT IN SMALL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ARAB COUNTRIES. IT HAS SPECIAL INTERESTIN AND PERHAPS CONNECTION WITH MAURITANIA, THE SUDAN, AND KUWAIT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE ADDED THAT ADAR IS ABLE TO PUT DEALS TOGETHER BUT DOES NOT

HAVE CAPABILITY TO CARRY OUT PROJECTS ITSELF.

3. AQUICK CHECK OF KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS AT OFFICE OF MINES AND SOCIETE NATIONALE INDUSTRIELLE ET MINIERE DREW BLANK ON REPORTED A.D. LITTLE STUDY MENTIONED REFS A AND D. WE SUSPECT THAT CONTRACT WON BY ADAR IS FOR SAME STUDY IN WHICH A.D. LITTLE SHOWED INTEREST AND SUBMITTED PROPOSAL.HANDYSIDE

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